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March 24, 1998 LB 1120

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: You've heard the motion. Those in favor of adopting the E & R amendments say aye. Those opposed say nay. They are adopted.

CLERK: Senator Abboud offers AM3977.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Abboud, you're recognized to open on your amendment.

SENATOR ABBOUD: Mr. President, I'm going to be...I'd like to withdraw this amendment.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: It is withdrawn.

CLERK: Senator Wickersham, AM3991, Senator. (See page 1276 of the Lagislative Journal.)

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Wickersham, you're recognized to open.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Thank you, Mr. President. This amendment is in part technical, and in part substantive. The substantive portion of the amendment is one that makes provisions for a mutual finance organization which crosses county boundaries. That is, you might have a fire district in one county, and a fire district in another county, or a municipality in another county, and in the combination they have a mutual finance organization that qualifies for the assistance as provided in What it does is recognize that potential for cross-county organizations, and indicates that if you qualify in one county, that is you meet the parameters of covering more than 80 percent of the population in that county with your mutual finance organization, that the property within the fire district in the adjoining county that is a part of the mutual finance organization also qualifies, and you'll receive aid for the calculated residents of that other fire district as well, even though it's not in the county that caused the group, the mutual finance organization, to be qualified. We're also striking language which in effect means that first class cities are allowed to join one of the mutual finance organizations, and I think that's a significant addition. That will work in some